

Media Contact:

Jane Robison Sr. Public Information Officer 213-974-3525 JRobison@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

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Pair Sentenced in Failed 2008 Restaurant Takeover Robbery

A convicted felon with a lengthy record was sentenced today to 620 years to life in prison for a series of violent takeover robberies around Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Jack Garden with the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section, who prosecuted the case, said Alonzo Harris, 54, "was extremely violent."

Last September, Harris was convicted of 37 counts, including 14 takeover robberies at stores and markets over a nine-month period beginning in October 2007. Garden said Harris used a gun in every incident. On several occasions, he pistol-whipped the victims. In one instance, he sexually assaulted a female worker during a Dec. 23, 2007, takeover robbery at a grocery store.

Harris, aka Felton Bradford, was captured along with a second suspect following a failed July 11, 2008 takeover robbery at Lawry's The Prime Rib restaurant on La Cienega Boulevard in Beverly Hills.

Harris and co-defendant Floyd Nelson, 54, fled the restaurant after failing to get the chef to open the safe. They were arrested by Los Angeles Police officers, who had the pair under surveillance.

Nelson, who was convicted by the same jury of three counts related to the Lawry attempted robbery, was sentenced today to 50 years to life in state prison.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles and Beverly Hills police departments.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.